



COMMUNIQUÉ

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For immediate release

Declaration by the General Assembly of the Northshore Aquatic Association concerning the Mandate of the Executive Committee

The Northshore Aquatic Association proudly announces to its Membership, that the General Assembly has **unanimously adopted** on May 2nd, 2024, motion *M.GA.24.2* on the mandate of the Executive Committee regarding recruitment and participation.

This declaration by the General Assembly publicly recognizes, on its Sixtieth Anniversary, the collective commitment by all member pools to continue providing a fun, participatory, safe, healthy, supportive and encouraging aquatic environment to all children and families. It reiterates the crucial community role played by all member pools, and calls on community and municipal leaders to support the values and mission of the Association through concrete measures and policies.

Recognizing the current struggles felt by many member pools with regard to participation, this motion gives a clear direction to the Association. Amongst other provisions, **this motion mandates the Executive Committee to develop, publish and implement a long-term strategy which:**

- (a) Advocates for the protection of the autonomy of member pools;
- (b) Protects and supports each member pool against the threat of permanent closure;
- (c) Secures the future of the Association's activities;
- (d) Ensures the continuous relevance and deeply-rooted presence of the Association in the communities it serves;
- (e) Increases participation throughout all of its activities;
- (f) Reduces or eliminates existing socio-economic barriers to participation in NAA activities.



M.GA.24.2 — Mandate of the Executive Committee regarding Recruitment and Participation

CONSIDERING that participation at Competitive Swimming activities of the Northshore Aquatic Association has reached its lowest point in at least fifteen regular seasons;

CONSIDERING the significance of the activities of the Northshore Aquatic Association in providing a safe, healthy, supportive and encouraging environment to every child pursuing an aquatic sport;

CONSIDERING that the activities of the Northshore Aquatic Association have had an incalculable impact on every member, and continue to encourage community participation by all;

CONSIDERING that the Northshore Aquatic Association and its member pools play an essential role in providing accessible aquatic activities to communities across Montreal;

CONSIDERING that the Northshore Aquatic Association and its member pools have initiated many individuals to competitive aquatic sports, and has produced dozens of high-level athletes, including many olympic team members;

CONSIDERING that the activities of the Northshore Aquatic Association and its member pools contribute in a significant way to advancing the overall living conditions of children and families from the neighbourhoods it serves, and from all socio-economic backgrounds; to promoting a healthy lifestyle, and to offering a safe space for children to grow and develop;

CONSIDERING that the healthy development of the children and their families relies on community organizations such as the member pools of the Northshore Aquatic Association;

CONSIDERING that Pierrefonds Park Pool, former member of the Northshore Aquatic Association, has permanently closed in 2023;

CONSIDERING that the Northshore Aquatic Association has lost at least three pools in the last decade;

CONSIDERING that the loss of any member pool has significant negative consequences on the communities surrounding the said pool, reduces the ability of community members to be resilient one towards the other, limits the ability for individuals to participate in democratic life and limits the ability for individuals to contribute to the social development of their own neighbourhood and community;

CONSIDERING that the Mission of the Northshore Aquatic Association cannot be accomplished without the Membership;

CONSIDERING that without proper measures, the observed reduction in participation may threaten the ability of the Northshore Aquatic Association to fulfill its Mission of providing a fun, participatory,



safe, healthy, supportive and encouraging environment to every child wishing to pursue their aquatic sport;

CONSIDERING that it is the responsibility of the Northshore Aquatic Association to promote the interests of each member and each member pool, and to safeguard the ability of each member pool to continue to provide the aquatic programs of the Association for the following decades;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Northshore Aquatic Association be mandated by the General Assembly to develop, publish and implement a long-term strategy to halt and reverse the negative trend in participation at its community programs;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Northshore Aquatic Association be mandated by the General Assembly to advocate for the maintenance and protection of community-run pools on behalf of all its members.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Northshore Aquatic Association be mandated by the General Assembly to negotiate, develop and implement, in collaboration with community members, municipalities, the provincial government and concerned sports federations, a concrete and viable plan which secures the existence of the Association and its activities for the following decades, and which protects the autonomy of all member pools of the Association in their respective communities.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Northshore Aquatic Association be mandated by the General Assembly to advance the interests of the Membership, and protect and support each member pool against the threat of permanent closure.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Northshore Aquatic Association be mandated by the General Assembly to take all possible measures, which enable its activities to benefit as many communities, children and families as possible.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Northshore Aquatic Association be mandated by the General Assembly to take all possible measures, which shall reduce or eliminate existing socio-economic barriers to participation in NAA activities.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Northshore Aquatic Association be mandated by the General Assembly to take all possible measures, which develop the aquatic programs of the Association and/or expand the number of communities which benefit therefrom.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Northshore Aquatic Association be mandated by the General Assembly to showcase and carry on the value and relevance of the Association and its member pools, in the broader, non-aquatic community;

BE IT RESOLVED that the current resolution be published on the website of the Association